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**Veterans Bridge Home Welcomes Amaris McComas as New Board of Directors Chair**

CHARLOTTE— (Oct. 5, 2021)— The Veterans Bridge Home (VBH) Board of Directors unanimously elected Amaris McComas as the organization’s new board chair.

Prior to this selection, she had served as the Vice Chair of the VBH Board for two years and has been a member of the board of directors since March 2016. Accompanying her personal passion for serving veteran families, McComas has brought her deep human resource experience to the organization’s internal operations and their veteran-facing work.

Amaris has been a leader in the community’s veteran space for more than eight years,” said Blake Bourne, Executive Director of Veterans Bridge Home. “She was one of our original employer partners committing her company to improving their veteran hiring practices. She led multiple veteran employee resource groups with a focus on acquiring and retaining veteran talent. She has been an active board member and was the obvious choice to lead our organization forward.

McComas succeeds VBH co-founder and the organization’s only previous Board Chair, Tommy Norman. Norman continues to play a role in VBH’s future, leading the Board of Advisors and working as a liaison to national veteran-serving organizations. Amaris and the Board will shoulder the strategic responsibility to grow the organization.

“In 2011 when Patty and I started what became VBH we had the goal helping veterans. When we saw the scope of the need, we grew the organization to serve Charlotte and the surrounding region,” said Tommy Norman, VBH Co-Founder and outgoing board chair. “Ten years later a lot has changed, and we have assumed responsibility across the center of the state to support the majority of the veteran families in North Carolina. The veterans’ space is changing and innovating and to continue this work we need a new perspective and innovative leaders like Amaris.”

McComas is currently the Chief People Officer at CPSI, a Mobile, AL-based healthcare technology company. Prior to that role, McComas was the Head of Talent, Strategy and Transformation at Equitable, the Senior Human Resources Business Partner supporting the Office of the CFO at TIAA and played a significant role in talent acquisition strategies and technology implementations at Premier Inc. and HSBC.

Her commitment to diversity in the workplace and helping veterans find meaningful careers after service have been the hallmarks of her professional career. In 2009 and 2011, McComas received HSBC’s Diversity Ambassador Award for increasing awareness and education in recruitment related to Affirmative Action and served as the lead diversity liaison of resourcing for the United States. At Premier and then again at TIAA she stood up the veteran recruiting program and their employee resource group. (40 under 40 explanation)

Drawing on her own professional experience as a woman executive who grew up in Puerto Rico, McComas has been a *See Her Lead* partner since 2015, helping young women feel confident in leadership roles. She also served as a Junior Achievement Volunteer from 2008 thru 2016. In addition to her professional and volunteer commitments, she and her husband are the devoted parents to their three children.

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**About Veterans Bridge Home**

*Veterans Bridge Home connects Veterans and their families, in any state of transition, to the community. Through our network of partners, we help Veterans navigate employment, create social connections, and settle their families. We look at the whole Veteran and connect them to the resources needed to be successful and thriving leaders in our community. For more information about our mission and what we do, visit* [www.veteransbridgehome.org](http://www.veteransbridgehome.org).